

JEFF'S SLOW WORK PROVES BUT LITTLE

Interesting Exhibition of Gymnastic Stunts Such as All Boxers Perform—He Looks Good, Has He the Stamina?

By THOMAS S. RICE.

James J. Jeffries and his trained troupe of performers give a show that is interesting but not especially thrilling. Their work at the Lyric in Baltimore last night was worth seeing, but hardly at the rate of from one to five dollars per throw. There was a goodly crowd on hand, but it would have been much larger had a rate of fifty cents to three dollars been charged. These may appear sordid details, but they are of moment, for the company will go through its stunts in Washington on December 3 if we all live and nothing happens.

But the main question is: Did his showing last night indicate that Jeffries is fit to battle for the world's championship with Jack Johnson on some date between now and July 4, next? In our opinion that exhibition of about five minutes of ordinary training work proved nothing at all. The question about his chances with Johnson remains unanswered, and will until they have fought eight or ten rounds.

Fine Figure of a Man.

Jeffries looks the part of a man in the prime of life. He is a remarkably large man, and with his square set head and broad shoulders gives an impression of hugeness when attired in street clothes. When stripped for the ring Jeffries loses all appearance of excessive bigness. In fact, his proportions are good and he does not look as big as you would expect. He is not like a sylph-like, but built along the lines of a high-grade athlete who must command great strength with agility and endurance. His muscles do not stand out in knotted bunches like those of wrestlers and professional strong men. At present he is not trained fine and it is natural that his muscles should be buried, but even were he in fighting trim he would not be as muscle bound in appearance as you might expect. Jeffries has fulfilled his prediction that he could reduce the superfluous flesh he acquired in his five years of retirement from pugilism. There are distinct traces of the girth still left, but should he take it all off now and keep it off for the benefit of the critics between now and next July, he would be so overtrained in six months he would be a wreck.

Just Enough Flesh.

He has just about enough of the extra avoirdupois to keep his health in excellent trim. Also, his color is of a natural glow. The deep setting of his eyes in his heavy head deceives long range observers into thinking that he is worn and tired, but the truth is his eyes are bright and indicate that there is nothing wrong with him, and that his training has not proved wearing on his system.

Jeffries skips the rope with surprising springiness and deftness. His shadow-sparring stunt is brief, but his actions quick. The pulling with the five-pound exercisers was all that could be desired.

McCormick a Joke.

The bout with Jack McCormick was a joke and proved nothing at all. If Jeffries had landed on Jack with his force he would immediately have been the main figure in a trial for manslaughter. McCormick was a hundred pounds or so overweight and as helpless as a baby before the boiler-maker, who positively refused to even slap him smartly for fear of fatal consequences.

Much was expected of this bout with McCormick as giving a line on Jeffries' real footwork and the speed with which he could change pace, but it was merely shadow-sparring in an exaggerated form and the four one-minute rounds were wasted time. Jeff should get a husky sparring partner who can take a wallop.

Just the Usual Stunts.

The entire Baltimore colony of pugilists turned out to take note of the king of the craft. They were unanimous in declaring that he "looked good," and most of them let their enthusiasm and prejudice lead them to say that he would have an edge on Johnson, but on second thought they were not so sure about it.

Jeffries' exhibition was just the kind furnished by every old-timer who announces that he will take one more chance. They invite the sporting writers to visit their camp and even if they are centenarians, they go through all training stuff with more or less vim.

Local Chess Crack



RUDOLPH SZE.

PAPKE AND KETCHEL CHINESE PLAYER COMES TO FRONT

Illinois Boxer Accedes to Stanley's Demand of 165 Pounds Ringside. Youngster Member of Local Chess Club Has Bright Prospect.

NEW YORK, Nov. 13.—There will be a fifth battle between Billy Papke and Stanley Ketchel. It is almost a certainty, as Papke has given in about that 155-pound notch, and has wired from Kewanee that Ketchel can come in at 165 ringside.

It is up to Ketchel now, and as he is ever willing to meet his most stubborn foe, the two great middleweights will undoubtedly toe the scratch before the year is out.

Papke has declared he will bet \$5,000 on the result.

NAVY QUARTERBACK IS GETTING BETTER
Wilson Shows First Improvement Since Operation Two Weeks Ago.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Nov. 19.—The expected improvement in the condition of Midshipman Earl D. Wilson, quarterback of the Navy football team, following the operation performed on him two weeks ago, was indicated for the first time today.

The paralysis from which the young fellow has been suffering since the injury to his spine in the Villa Nova game over a month ago, now shows the first signs of diminishing.

An aspirant for the highest chess honor has been unearthed at the Washington Chess, Checker and Whist Club. In Rudolph Sze, a young Chinaman, who has been in this country for the past few years as a student at Central High School.

In the past few years young Sze has taken part in all important tournaments held by the local club and has always finished well up among the winners. In a recent simultaneous event against Frank Marshall, champion of the United States, Sze was one of the two men who earned a draw.

He was born in Hongkong, China, and is the son of a well-known railroad magnate of that place. He will graduate at Central in June and expects to enter Cornell next season.

CINCINNATI MAYOR BARS JIM JEFFRIES
CINCINNATI, Nov. 19.—Mayor Galvin has refused to grant a permit for Champion Jim Jeffries and his "Congress of Athletes" to give exhibitions Thanksgiving afternoon and evening at Central Turner Hall, in this city.

The mayor gave no reason except "We don't want Jeffries here." The mayor said that if Jeffries had been attached to a regular theatrical company he presumed he would have been obliged to grant the permit, but as he is not he declined curtly to do so.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MAY DROP FOOTBALL

Committee Is Appointed by Faculty School to Consider This Question—Action of School Principals Is Popular.

George Washington University, which has to this time maintained a stand-pat policy on the football question, today put that game under investigation, and there are chances of its being continued.

A committee has been named to weigh football and make some definite recommendation to the president's council at its December meeting. It is composed of: Dean H. L. McBain, of the College of Political Science.

Dean W. A. Wilbur, of Columbian College.

Dean William R. Vance, of the University Law School.

The investigation was authorized at a meeting of the president's council last night. The action of the president's council will not be final, as the university council must pass upon the matter first. Dr. Charles W. Needham, president of the university, intimated this morning that a special meeting of the university council might be called to consider the football situation before its regular meeting in February.

Action Is Popular.
A canvass of the high schools this morning disclosed the fact that though one of the five principals voted against abolishing the game pending a change in the rules, the teachers are practically unanimous in favoring the majority's action. The vote of the man who wished to play out the schedule was cast, it is understood, not because he indorses the game as it is now played, but because he wished to await the result of the alteration in rules promised by the intercollegiate committee before any definite action is taken.

The changes in rules, it developed this morning, must be very radical before the game will retain its old standing at Georgetown University, at Maryland Agricultural College, or in the high schools of the District.

Another heavy blow was delivered when the superintendents of the New York schools voted yesterday to abolish the game. Though the board of education must pass upon their action there is little likelihood that they will not abide by the superintendents' ruling.

Students Show Approval.
The difficulty in Washington in putting the game back on its feet will come, it has developed within the last few days, not from the faculties so much as from the pupils themselves. The action at Georgetown, which was the signal for other institutions to fall in line, was taken, it became known today, in consonance with the wishes of members of the team and with the student body.

At Eastern High School it has been exceedingly difficult to muster eleven men for daily practice, and it is doubtful whether that school would have played out its schedule even had the principals not taken the action they did. The parents have become another factor of formidable proportions. Following the death of Archer Christian on Georgetown Field, letters from parents deluged the principals asking that their sons be prohibited from playing the game.

Officials at the Army and Navy Preparatory School this morning said the sport was safe there. The boys play only a few games a season, and these are not so hotly contested as to bring out bad features.

Favors the Game.
Tome Institute, at Port Deposit, Md., which is attended by a number of Washington boys, joins with the Army and Navy Preps and other preparatory schools in continuing the game. The E. H. Tome Institute, a director of physical education at the institute, said this morning to Times reporter:

"There are ten teams playing the game here, and while there has been the usual number of minor accidents, there has not been any of a serious nature for ten years. The unfortunate accidents which have occurred recently have put the game under fire, but I think no other sport can take its place. The game should be opened and mass plays eliminated."

Football at Virginia Polytechnic Institute will not be abandoned. Active arrangements are being made there for the Thanksgiving Day game to be played.

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